

May 11 gone

The Morning Astorian.

VOLUME LVII.

ASTORIA, OREGON, SUNDAY, MAY 1, 1904.

NO. 177.

JAPANESE WIN FIRST FIGHT ON LAND

Sixteen Thousand Jap Soldiers Attack Force of Thirty Thousand Russians, Inflicting Terrible Defeat.

Before Conflict Ends Brown Men are Reinforced, Making Rout Complete and Crushing.

MANY OFFICERS AMONG SLAIN

Sharpshooters Do Deadly Work—Czar's Soldiers Although Strongly Fortified Fail to Stand Their Ground.

Kaupang Tix, Manchuria, April 30.—3 a. m.—The first battle of the war is persistently reported to have occurred on the Yalu river. Sixteen thousand Japanese attacked 30,000 Russians, who were strongly fortified. It is rumored this morning that the Japanese were reinforced, and that the battle continues. The Japanese sharpshooters killed many Russian officers, whose uniforms were conspicuous.

NEWS AT WASHINGTON.

Government Hears of Russian Defeat, But Declines to Give Source.

Washington, April 30.—Reports have reached the state department, the source of which the officials do not care to divulge, to the effect that a great battle has been fought on the Yalu river, resulting in a complete Japanese victory. Details are unobtainable.

The Japanese legation here has no news confirming the reports, but the matter has aroused intense interest in official circles.

Reports which have from time to time reached the Washington government indicate that the two armies would not come into touch before May 1, and that whatever occurred was nothing more than outpost skirmishes and collisions between scouting parties.

It is believed now, however, that the weather conditions in Manchuria have improved sufficiently to facilitate the movements of troops and artillery, and that the two vanguards

have consequently come together a few days in advance of the expected date.

The latest advices place the scene of the Japanese crossing of the Yalu at Chin Tien Cheng, a town on the Manchurian side of the river, which it is reported was finally captured by the Japanese. The date of the battle is stated to have been last Tuesday, and the delay in receiving the news is ascribed to the absence of telegraphic facilities in this remote quarter of Manchuria.

Russians Deny Report.

St. Petersburg, April 30.—The reported big Japanese victory on the Yalu is pronounced here to be impossible unless the Japanese chose to interpret their practically unimpeded passage of the river as a great victory. As the Russians have little more than observation outposts, anything beyond skirmishing is declared by a member of the general staff to have been out of the question. Liao Yang is connected by wire with the headquarters of the general commanding the outposts and it is presumed that the commander would report immediately any incident of importance.

News Reaches London.

London, May 1.—The observer says that it understands that the Japanese legation here has received a long dispatch confirming the reports of fighting on the Yalu river, but the contents of the dispatch are not now available.

LEADER FAVORS PARKER.

John Sharp Williams Certain That Judge Will Be Nominated.

Washington, April 30.—Representative John Sharp Williams of Mississippi, in an authorized statement, says that he believes the nomination of Judge Parker is assured.

"It is clear to me now," said Williams, that "Parker will be nominated by such an overwhelming vote that there will be substantially no opposition when the time for the convention arrives. Individually, I favor his selection."

Test Not Satisfactory.

Washington, April 30.—Professor A. C. Bell today gave an exhibition of the Tetrahedral kite, which he believes is the secret of aerial navigation. The wind was so uncertain that the tests were not regarded as satisfactory.

Train Beats Records.

London, April 30.—A train on the Great Western railroad clipped all records for the conveyance of American mail between Plymouth and London, covering 247 miles in 237 minutes. The last 118 miles was made in 99 minutes.

ST. LOUIS EXPOSITION OPENS AMID RINGING OF BELLS AND CRASH OF BANDS

In Spite of Disagreeable Prophecy of Weather Forecaster, Day Breaks Beautiful and Program Is Carried Out.

Great Procession Wends its Way to Plaza Where Speeches are Delivered—Gaily Uniformed Bands and Glittering Attire of Foreign Officials Mingle With Dark Frocked Dignitaries, Making the Scene an Attractive One.

World's Fair Grounds, St. Louis, April 30.—At 10:04 this afternoon, to the tolling of bells, amid the crash of bands, the sweeping chorus of the "Star-Spangled Banner," sung by a thousand voices, and the cheers of the greatest throng ever assembled in the city of St. Louis, the Louisiana Purchase exposition was formally declared open.

World's Fair Grounds, St. Louis, April 30.—Notwithstanding the prediction of the government forecaster, who prophesied rain for the latter part of the day and lowering skies for the morning, St. Louis put forth her best and bravest effort today in honor of the opening of her great exposition. The morning, at least, was bright. The crowd was fully as large as that which filled the grounds one year ago when the exposition buildings were dedicated.

Promptly at the hour set the officers and directors of the exposition, the members of the national commission and the board of lady managers were gathered at the administration building, where, as rapidly as possible, they were formed into a procession and moved to the plaza of St. Louis, where the formal exercises were conducted. At the head of the column was a detachment of guards. Then came the Scouts' band, followed by the Philippine scouts, an imposing body of men who marched well. Behind them, and leading the officers and directors of the exposition, came Sousa's band. Following the officers and managers last of all were the lady managers. As the column from the administration building entered the plaza a long line formed of representative foreigners. This column was also headed by a detachment of the Jefferson guards, followed by a band. At the head of the line immediately behind the music were the representatives of foreign nations, marching in the order of presentation of credentials to the exposition.

Following these came representatives of governments having ministers accredited to the United States government, and then a great number of other representatives of foreign governments and colonies, also in the same order. This column presented by far the gayest appearance of the day, for the foreigners made a great display of gold lace and glittering ornaments, in great contrast to the dark frocks which were so prominent among the officers and dignitaries of the exposition. Then came a third column formed of representatives of the state and territorial governments of the union.

At the base of the Louisiana monument a small stand had been erected for the speakers and seats provided for the listeners. The assemblage was called to order without delay by President D. R. Francis of the exposition, who requested the multitude to rise, while Rev. Frank M. Gunsaulus of Chicago delivered an eloquent invocation, concluding with the Lord's prayer, in which the audience joined.

President Francis, as chief executive of the exposition, delivered the following address:

"This universal exposition was conceived in a sense of obligation on the part of the people of the Louisiana purchase to give expressions to their gratitude for the innumerable blessings that have flowed from a century of membership in the American union to manifest their appreciation of the manifold benefits of living in a land whose climate and soil and resources are unsurpassed, and of having their lots cast in an age when liberty and enlightenment are established on founda-

tions broad and deep and are the heritage of all who worthily strive. To rise to the full measure of such a sentiment required an undertaking of comprehensive proportions and the participation of all races and of every clime. The magnitude of the enterprise was never lost sight of by its promoters, but its mammoth proportions, constantly increasing as they developed, never for a moment shook the confidence, weakened the energies or diverted from their well-defined purposes those who had been entrusted with the responsibility and the work. Today you see the consummation of their efforts.

"So thoroughly does it represent the world's civilization that if all man's other works were by some unspeakable catastrophe blotted out, the records here established by the assembled nations would afford all necessary standards for the rebuilding of our entire civilization.

"The Louisiana Purchase exposition, held in commemoration of the acquisition of an empire by a deed of the pen, salutes the representatives, executive and legislative of the federal government, and tenders most profound thanks for the recognition extended and assistance rendered. It acknowledges obligations to states and territories and foreign countries for cooperation and contribution and makes its obedience to commissioners and exhibitors.

"Open ye gates—swing wide ye portals. Enter herein ye sons of men and behold the achievements of your race. Learn the lesson here taught and gather from it inspiration for still greater accomplishments."

Mayor Rolla Wells of St. Louis welcomed the country to the exposition. Next was the following address by Thomas H. Carter, president of the national commission:

"An act of the congress of the United States approved March 3, 1901, gave national recognition to the exposition we this day open to the public. In appropriating \$5,000,000 in aid of the project congress expressed the nation's approval of the proposal to fittingly celebrate the centennial anniversary of the great historic event the exposition is intended to commemorate. By joint action of the national commission and company, the position of the national government has been steadfast from the beginning. With cheerful alacrity, time for preparation was extended one year by congress upon request of the company and a loan of \$4,600,000 was made by congress to meet all the obligations of the exposition up to this day of opening. If to the original appropriation of \$5,000,000 be added this loan and the aggregate amount directly and indirectly expended and authorized by the government for construction and establishment of exhibits upon the fair grounds is taken to account it will be found that financially the United States is today concerned in the exposition to the extent of nearly \$15,000,000, thus by duplicating the price in this celebration the price paid for the Louisiana territory of 100 years ago.

"In stately architectural display, and in exhibits of their achievements in science, art and industry, the society of nations assembled here in generous competition calls forth acclamations of approval and we greet them as our visiting neighbors and friends.

"Our home folks of the states, territories, and districts, of the union, have combined to honor this occasion of the opening of the fair on a scale of unexpected generosity. This unrivaled presentation of peoples and governments from abroad and the large home

participation places upon the exposition management a weight of responsibility, which, like the exposition itself, is unprecedented. With justice, courtesy, fair play and hospitality as watchwords, from the gatekeeper up to the president of the company all will be well.

"From comparison of production ideas destined to affect the future of the world will be involved. Material progress everywhere will surely be heightened and strengthened in consequence. From the comingling of people social forces will be set in motion laden with far reaching results. In the name of the national commission, I extend to those who are here and to those who are to come a hearty greeting."

At the conclusion of Carter's speech Senator Burnham of New Hampshire was introduced. He said:

"Accepting the invitation of the Louisiana Purchase exposition, the senate of the United States responds through its committee and joins with greetings and congratulations in these formal opening ceremonies.

"The occasion that brings us here has no parallel in the history of nations. If we consider the event that is now to be commemorated we find that no domain like that of the Louisiana Purchase ever passed by peaceful means from beneath the flag of one nation to the sovereignty of another. A territory of more than one million square miles in area, extending from the British possessions on the north to the Gulf of Mexico on the south, and from the banks of the Mississippi to

(Continued on Page 8.)

BASEBALL SCORES.

Pacific Coast.

At Seattle—Portland 2, Seattle 1.
At Tacoma—Oakland 0, Tacoma 3.
At San Francisco—Los Angeles 1, San Francisco 3.

Pacific National.

At Salt Lake—Boise 8, Salt Lake 6.
At Spokane—Butte 11, Spokane 0.

Oregon League.

At Salem—Roseburg 4, Salem 6.

National.

At New York—Boston 1, New York 10.
At St. Louis—Cincinnati 7, St. Louis 1.
At Pittsburg—Pittsburg 2, Chicago 3 (10 innings).

American.

At Cleveland—St. Louis 7, Cleveland 1.
At Philadelphia—New York 2, Philadelphia 6.
At Detroit—Chicago 3, Detroit 3.
Postponed on account of rain.
At Washington—Boston 4, Washington 0.

GREAT ARMIES ARE GOING FORWARD

Russia Plans to Throw Immense Bodies of Men Across the Yalu as Speedily as Possible.

Japanese Troops Also Busy and 100,000 Men May Clash in Battle Soon.

JAP TRANSPORTS ASSISTING

Blind Faith Reposed in General Kuropatkin's Skill at Strategy—Japan Employing Old Tactics.

St. Petersburg, April 30.—All news from the front indicates that the armies of Generals Kuropatkin and Oki, comprising in all about 100,000 men, are being rapidly pushed forward and will be thrown across the Yalu as speedily as possible. Japanese transports have also appeared at the mouth of the river and, supported by a few warships, will assist in the operations. The Japanese seem to be following closely the same tactics pursued by them during the China-Japanese war, having already occupied Kullen Cheng. The beginning of serious land fighting is considered to be not far distant, although a heavy movement of troops may not begin for several days.

Desultory picket firing is occurring constantly, but no importance is attached to it. It is significantly intimated by members of the general staff that General Kuropatkin has some secret plans and that the Japanese may soon find themselves in a trap. General Kuropatkin's skill at strategy is a thing in which the Russian army reposes blind faith.

The general staff does not believe it will be possible for the Japanese to deliver a successful frontal attack on this position, the country being exceedingly difficult and also favorable for disastrous ambushes.

Payne Back to Work.

Washington, April 30.—Postmaster General Payne returned to his desk at the postoffice department today.

One Price To All!

Do You Know What That Means?



A BOY can buy a Suit of Clothes from our immense stock, and get as good a bargain and as good a fit as though his father made the selection.

FAIR and honorable treatment and the Lowest PRICES consistent with Honest Goods have given our store the reputation of being the LEADING Clothing house of the city.

P. A. STOKES

NEW FOR THIS WEEK!

Another lot of Ladies' Suits and Skirts with Prices that speak for themselves. Ladies' Suits from \$9.00 to \$25.00. Ladies' Wool Skirts from \$1.75 to \$10.00. Ladies' Wash Suits, Percales and Linen, \$1.25 to \$2.50. Mercerized Sateen Petticoats from 75c to \$4.50. Silk Petticoats from \$4.50 to \$20.00. Ladies' Shirt Waists from 50c to \$5.00. Men's Dress Shirts from 50c to \$1.85. Men's Heavy Double Front Work Shirts 40c and 50c. You Can BUY Them CHEAPER

AT THE BEE HIVE

The Finest Book Yet

THE REAL DIARY OF A REAL BOY, Price \$1.00, at

JNO. N. GRIFFIN